[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The fact that the Senate was to elect its officers to-day had the effect of filling the galleries and the corridors around the Chamber with an unusually large number of people, who went in the expectation of hearing the virtuous declarations of Democratic Senators in favor of Civil Service Reform and their expressions of horror, disgust and pain at the unwarrantable course taken by the Republicans in proposing the reorganization of the Senate. The rumors that the Democrats were to delay the election as much as possible by making unnecessarily long speeches and dilatory motions added to the air of expectancy which pervaded the chamber. Common sense prevailed, however, and the Democrats confined them-

selves to entering formal protests against the action

of the Republicans. Senators Beck and Saulsbury, it is true, attempted to confound their opponents by asserting the proposed election to be a violation of the spirit of Civil Service Reform, but they were speedily silenced by the pertinent remarks of Senator Sherman. In the case of the Secretaryship, to begin with, no question of Civil Service could possibly have entered into the discussion. There existed a vacancy and it had to be filled. The Republicans being in the majority were entitled to fill it. In the case of the Secretary's office it was a matter of improving the service or leaving it in its present unsatisfactory condition. Complaints as to the incompetency of the clerks at the reading desk have been made from time to time by a number of Senators, Democrats included. The present opportunity was thought a good one, therefore, to remedy the evil complained of. With regard to the Chaplainey, out of which the Democrats tried to make a little political capital, it was a matter of sentiment chiefly. A Senater te-day probably voiced the feeling of a majority of the Republicans when he said: "I'd rather be prayed for by a Union man than by a man who sympathized with those who were doing their best to destroy their country."

THE REORGANIZATION BEGUN. At the conclusion of the morning hour Senator Sherman moved that the Senate proceed to the election of its officers. Senator Pendleton entered his protest against the proceedings in a neat little speech, listened to by the Democrats with approving nods intended to convey the impression that they believed in the fine sentiments uttered by their spokesman. While this was going on Senators Jones. of Nevada, and Riddleberger entered the Senate Chamber, thereby proving the absurdity of the stories that they would absent themselves during the casting of the vote. At the conclusion of Mr. Pendleton's remarks and after a Pecksnifilan glance by that gentleman at the galleries, as much as to say that he and his friends washed their hands of the entire business, Mr. Sherman moved the elec- been set affoat of her being seen tion of General Anson G. McCook to the Secretaryship of the Senate.

Senator Garland wished to be precise and have him "appointed" and not "elected." He was unsuccessful, however, and so was Mr. Pendleton, who moved to substitute the name of L. Q. Washington for that of Anson G. McCook. The vote on Mr. Pendleton's motion was 32 nays to 29 yeas, and General McCook's election followed as a matter of course. Senator Miller, of New-York, who with Senators Platt and Aldrich has fought General McCook's battle, intimated that that gentleman was present and forthwith escorted him to the President's desk, where the oath of office was administered by Senator Edmunds. The new Secretary received the congratulations of his friends, many of them Democrats, who had not voted for him, and withdrew blushingly to the anteroom. His nomination, it may be remarked here, was entirely

DEMOCRATS PERSISTENT IN PRETENCE. Much the same scene was enacted when Senator Sherman proposed the name of Charles W. Johnson for Chief Clerk. Again Mr. Pendleton returned to the charge; again his colleagues looked solemn and virtuous, Mr. Pendleton supposed it was a vain thing to move to sub titute for the name given the name of Mr. Shober, the present incumbent. He was right, for when he colled for the yeas and nays on Mr. Sherman's resolution, Mr. Shober was compelled to announce his own death warrant: Yeas 32, nays 29.

pelled to announce his own death warrant: Yeas 32, nays 29.

The election of principal executive clerk being next in order. Mr. Sherman offered the name of James R. Young. Mr. Pendleton's stock of phrases was exhausted by this time, and he merely said that the posent clerk had won the confidence and esteem of the Senate, and that there existed no reason who is should be removed. Mr. Sherman begged less to remind his Democratic friends that they had be removed. Mr. Young when they were in the majority. This acted as a damper upon Democratic indignation, and hastened the taking of the vote, which resulted in the adoption of Mr. Sherman's resolution by 32 yeas and 29 nays.

Mr. SAULSBURY'S INDIGNATION. MR. SAULSBURY'S INDIGNATION.

The Rev. Elias Dewett Huntley was then nominated by Mr. Sherman as Chaplain. This brought Mr. Saulsbury to his feet. With much warmth and a fine outburst of indignation he protested against the turning out of office of a deserving man. For more than three years the present incumbent had prayed diligently and to the best of his ability for the Senators, many of whom were ready nov turn him out. It illustrated anew the love which the other side pretended to have for Ci-Dev-Civii (here the speaker almost choked in the attempt to pronounce the words Civil Service Reform). And much more to the same effect. The Democrats continued to 'look' glum and the Republicans indifferent. The vote resulted in 32 yeas for and 29 mays against the adoption of Mr. Sherman's resolution.

The election of P. H. Canady as Sergeant-at-Arins by the vector of 22 years to '28 nays competed the re-

by a vote of 32 yeas to 28 nays competed the re-organization. Mr. Pendleton spoke again, this time fully resigned in spirit and manner. Mr. Beck came to his rescue and pronounced Civil Service to be all humbug, an opinion in which most of his party friends agree with him.

#### SENATOR PENDLETON'S WRATH. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 18.-Senator Pendleton, of Ohio, is mad. His term and that of Senator Vest, of Missouri, expire on the same date. Senator Vest's seat in the Senate is in the back part of the chamber, one of a row of three seats. Senator Pendleton sits in front of the presiding officer, in the second row of seats. Senator Vest last week filed in

the office of the Sergeant-at-Arms any application for Senator Pendleton's seat, when that gentleman shall vacate it. Senator Pendleton regards himself as no more a corpse than Senator Vest is. At any rate he has no desire that his effects shall be administered upon until after the wake. And after finding out to-day what Senator Vest is after, he is mad.

### VALUABLE FOSSIL DISCOVERIES.

IBT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Dec. 18 .- A large deposit of fossil remains was uncovered by a blast at Portland quarries, which are situated near here, yesterday. Three large blocks of freestone were taken out three hundred feet below the surface, which are quite soft, having not yet become hardened from exposur to the air. On the upper surface of two of the book as are visible plainly indented—some of them a half an inch deep and sharply cut—the footprints of birds of a past age. Some are large and some are small. The third block has the fossilized remains of a creature that in shape resembles a turtle. It is about one foot and six inches wide, octagonal in shape and syal like the back of a turtle. It is firmly stached to the rock, and there are no traces of legs. A comber of scientists from Yale and Harvard Colleges will visit the quarries this week to search for other fossils. are quite soft, having not yet become hardened

### BURGLARY TRIALS IN KINGSTON.

[BT TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] KINGSTON, N.Y., Dec. 18 .- John Moore, who

Ellenville, was placed on trial to-day. He was arrested at his New-York home, November 14. Several witnesses swear to his identity, including officers from whom the burglars fied the morning after the crime, and a lock-tender on the canal. But it is understood that the defence will attempt to establish an alibi in this case.

Oscar Westcott, who pleaded gullty to a charge of larceny, was sentenced to Clinton Prison for two years and a half.

#### THE SLEEPING-CAR FIRE.

OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION-THE VICTIM'S FAMILY SEND COUNSEL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, Dec. 18 .- An inquiry was begun this morning by Railroad Commissioners Kernan and O'Don-nell into the burning of the sleeping-car "Toledo," on December 6 at Castleton. Wright, the sleeping-ear conductor, and Bishop, the porter, were examined. They tes-tified that the fire probably originated by the explosion of

the lamp in the ladles' toilet-room. The porter deuled that the doors of the car were locked, but admitted that after he had observed the fire he did nothing to arouse the passengers, supposing that they had been alarmed by the noise incident to opening the door and running through the car. The conductor testified that the fire was raging in the

car from twenty minutes to half an hour; that he supposed all the passengers had been rescued, but that it afterward appeared that Ferdinand Wartman, of Hobo-ken, was in the car all the while. He could not tell the extent of the damage done to the bedding, but denied that special efforts were made to save it, to the neglect of the passengers. Both the conductor and porter said that the car was not provided with an automatic brake-rope,

the car was not provided with an automatic brake-rope, and valuable time was lost in running to the next car to pull the rope in order to stop the train. The Toledo was the only car on the train which was not thus provided. An interesting question was raised before the commission for the first time by the request of Frederick W. Halls, of New-York, to be heard at the inquiry, as counsel for the family of the late Mr. Wartman. It was the first time that outside parties had been represented at such an inquiry by counsel. The Commissioners, after consultation, announced their decision hereafter not to hear consultation, and the falls was invited to success such questions as he wished to have asked on cross-examination. Mr. Halls closed with an argument urging the Commission to recommend the repeal of the present law limiting the damages recoverable in case of death to \$5,000, while for more injuries much larger sums might be exacted. He insisted that the law made it to the interest of railroads to kill a passenger who had been injured, and that it thus directly imperilled the safety of travellers. The Commissioners reserved their decision; and the further hearing was adjourned until the Coroner's inquest.

Thoy, Dec. 18.—The inquest into the burning of the

TROY, Dec. 18 .- The inquest into the burning of the sleeping car "Talono" was held by Coroner Riley at Castleton this afternoon. The same facts were elicited Albany. The jury rendered a verdict severely censuring the porter Bishop, for erminal negligence in no alarming the passengers, censure of the companny for not providing the ear with the automatic air-brake, and recommended that hereafter all sleeping-cars be provided with fire extinguishers, and that all employes be instructed by the company to look after the safety and comfort of all injured passengers.

### A MYSTERY CLEARED UP.

TRACES OF MISS COOLEY, THE MISSING WILKES-BARRE WOMON.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE,] WILKESBARRE, PENN., Dec. 18 .-- The mystery which enshrouded the disappearance of Miss Cooley seems about to be dissipated. Since her disappearance and the failure to find her body in the river, many rumors have Two days were spent by the detectives tracking a mysterious woman, who, attired in male costume, was seen by several people Wednesday on the mountains. It was reported that she had been seen at Penn Haven, boarding a Philadeiphia train; and many lar stories were set affoat, only to turn out false,

Last night, however, news reached the she had been seen near Shickshinny, that she had been seen near Shiekshinny, eighteen miles below this city. Two detectives and many private persons instantly started for the place. It was learned that a woman, answering in the nearest detail to the description of Miss Cooley, had been seen on the road near the town, on Saturday, had stald on Saturday night at a farm house in the vicinity, and, rising early in the morning, before day dawned had slipped out of the house and started again on her mysterous journey. At this point all trace of her, disappeared, but the detectives are hard at work, and hope soon to strike the trail again. She was very weak and evidently in need of assistance She was attired in garments similar to those worn by Miss Cooley, a wrapper and a striped shawl, and slippers. It is generally believed that she will soon be found, and her friends are joyfully looking forward to seeing her again.

### FINALLY GIVEN UP AS LOST.

GLOUCESTER FISHING VESSELS WITH TWENTY-TWO MEN LONG OVERDUE.

GLOUCESTER, Mass., Dec. 18 .- Two more, and the last, of the overdue fishing vessels have been given up by their owners as lost. The schooner George H. Pier, son safled for the Georges nearly six weeks ago. She had on board the following: Patrick O'Neil, master, who leaves a widow and three children: John Keogh, leaves a widow; John Keogh (two of same name), William Bren nan, John Connor, Abner Larrabee, leaves a widow; Isaac Lisen, leaves a widow; William Driscoll, Michael Ready, James Galvin, leaves a widow, and one unknown man. The vessel was owned by Cupningham & Thompson. She was insured for \$3,460.

The schooner Helen M. Dennis left port on November 1 for a Western Bank trip with a crew of fourteen, two of whom were lost in a dory, but were picked up and saved. whom were lost in a dory, but were picked up and saved. The others on board were: Archie A. McDonald, master; William Nutting, steward; Duncan McDonald, Joseph McMaster, Victorius McDonald, Jeffrey Duong, James Murphy, Augustus Hiltz, Alexander Seanian, Edward olter, Allen McLane and one unknown man. The Dennis was insured for \$4,100. The men were mostly from the Provinces. This gives a list of tweive vessels lost within the past three months, having on board 159 men.

### THE LOUISIANA DEMOCRATS.

MEETING OF THE STATE CONVENTION AT BATON

ROUGE-A CLOSE CONTEST OF FACAIONS. NEW-ORLEANS, La., Dec. 18 .- A dispatch to The Picagune from Baton Rouge says: The Democratic State Convention to nominate State officers met here today. Each faction appointed a committee of three on the other side pretended to have for Ci-Dev-Civil the organization of the Convention. The anti-Adminis tration caucus selected General Francis T. Nicholis as their candidate, and they agreed to support him at the convention. All is quiet. A conference committee of the convention. All is quiet. A conference committee of the factions afterward unanimously agreed upon Judge J. M. Howell, of La Fourche, as temporary chairman, and further, that the committee on credentials should be composed of seven from each faction, one to be selected by the temporary chairman. The Administration faction claim 190 uncentested delegates, giving 150 to the opposition, leaving 55 contested.

The convention was called to order at noon by the Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, and J. M. Howell of La Fourche was made temporary cinarman. He expressed his hope that the deliberations of the convention would be harmonious and satisfactory. Two secretaries from each faction were appointed.

# ACCUSED OF STEALING A DIAMOND.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] CLEVELAND, Dec. 18 .- Dr. J. G. Clyne, a young West-side physician, was arrested to-day on a charge of grand larceny. Mrs. Ida Scafert, of the West-side, alleges that Dr. Clyne, who was a friend of her husband, frequently called at their house, and one day, four or five months ago, while there, he playfully took her diamend ring from her finger and kept it. She was obliged to send for the ring, and, after repeated messages, he sent it back to Mrs. Seafert, but it did not contain the stone A few weeks ago Mrs. Seafert alleges that she heard that A few weeks ago Mrs. Seafert alleges that she heard that Dr. Clyne had given a diamond ring to a young woman to whom he was engaged to be married, and that she called on the young woman and requested to see the ring. It was proudly exhibited by the latter. Mrs. Seafert declares that the stone in the young woman's ring is the identical one that was in her's, and that she readily !lentifies it by a certain flaw in the jewel. Hence the arrest. She values the stone at \$150. The case will be heard in a police search the more were the stone at \$150.

### THE CHEEVER MURDER TRIAL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] MILFORD, Penn., Dec. 18 .- District-Attorney Newman asked for a stay of proceedings in the Cheever murder case to-day, stating that the circumstantial eviwould be unwise to divulge it until further confirmatory evidence had been obtained. After some opposition from Greening's and Benjamin's counsel, the judges granted the request. The prisoners were remanded to juil till the June term of the court.

#### DEATH AMONG STRANGERS. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

CLEVELAND, Dec. 18 .- Harold Bates, son of the Rev. J. Lockington Bates, a wealthy railroad magnate of Le idon, England, died last night at Charity Hospital in this city. He came here a year ago and entered the island indicted with Charles Mayhew, who was con-blied on Saturday for breaking open a joweller's safe in The young man was taken with scarlet fever on a ranche NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1883.

5 the far West, recently purchased by his father. The THE SPEAKER NOT AT HOME, dread of being sick among strangers prompted him to the unwise act of travelling to Cleveland; and when he arunwise act of travelling to Cleveland; and when he arrived here he was nearly dead from exhaustion. His mailedy developed into Bright's disease. A bulletin of his condition was sent by cable each day to his parents; but his mother, unable longer to endure the suspense, took passage and is now on the ocean bound for Cleveland. Last evening Dr. Isham saw the patient. He was delirious and very low. Ten minutes after the doctor left Bates suddenly died. No one was present save the Sisters of Charity who nursed him. The remains will be embalmed and taken to Eugland.

### CHARGES AGAINST JUDGE NIXON.

HE IS NOT DISTURBED-OTHERS CALL HIS ACCUSER

A "CRANK." TRENTON, Dec. 18 .- A dispatch in a Philadelphia paper this morning stated that Judge Kelley had presented in the House of Representatives at Washington a petition of Robert Davidson Kinney, of Philadelphia, requesting Congress to inquire into the course pursued by Judge Nixon, of the United States Circuit Court of New Jersey, in the settlement of the estate of Amos K. Mylin, who died in 1871. Kinney sets forth that Judge Nixon conspired with certain persons for the purpose of hindering the due course of justice, with intent to deny the heirs of the deceased person equal protection of the law, and

ing the due course of justice, with intent to deny the decase of the decased person equal protection of the law, and that he caused unlawful fees to be extorted so that the estate was swallowed up in litigation, and Mylin's widow and orphans were left penniless.

Judge Nixon was shown the article this noon. He said the petition did not give him the elightest trouble, nor would it trouble any one who knew Kinney. He said it surprised him that Judge Kelley should have presented the petition, but he supposed that Judge Kelley thought the right of petition was universal. Judge Nixon said the fact was that the court granted Kinney too much indulgence. Kinney knew little or nothing about law. The trouble in settling the Mylin cestate atose from some differences over mortgages. Kinney's eccentricities made matters worse than they had been. The court did the heat it could to help him out and facilitate a settlement of the case, but without avail. Instead of fighting life opponents, Kinney fought the court and the court officials. He considered Kinney unbalanced mentally. Judge Nixon said he had thought of demanding an investigation by Congress, but it would be making too much of a trivial matter. If the proper authorities chose to investigate, he was ready at any time. The clerks in the Circuit Court all state Kinney is a "crank." They say Kinney was going to have them all placed in contempt of court last summer for collusion. Kinney had acknowledged that overdoses of quinine had affected his mind.

#### PRISON LABOR REFORM SCHEMES.

TRENTON, Dec. 18 .- The Legislative Comnittee of the Labor Congress of this State have agreed upon the following points in reference to their proposed substitute for the system of contract prison labor: First, the abolition of the contract system: second, that as many prisoners as are necessary shall be employed in producing the articles necessary for the State instituwork in prisons and reformatories, and that two hour each day shall be devoted to the moral and intellectual instruction of the inmates; fourth, that a portion of the earnings of prisoners be placed to their credit, and after the expenses of their trial, etc., is deducted the balance be paid to their wives and families, if they have any be paid to their wives and families, if they have any, and if they have none to themselves at the expiration of their term of servitude; that the balance of the prisoners not needed in work for the use of the State shall be employed under the "piece price system;" that no more than twenty be employed at one branch of business, and that a hoard of appraisers, consisting of two wage workers, two business men and one merchant, with the warden as an navisory member, be appointed to appraise the value of the products of prisons, to prevent such goods going upon the market at less than market rates.

#### THE EMMA BOND CASE.

HILLSBORO, Ill., Dec. 18-Burrell and Meyer, convicts in the Chester Penitentiary, gave testimon to-day in the Emma Bond case. Their evidence in effect

to-day in the Emma Bond case. Their evidence in effect was that Montsomery Pettus, and Clementi, the accused, then imprisoned in the penitentiary, showed some hidden knowledge of the circumstances of the assault upon Miss Bond.

At the afternoon session "Jegry" Perguson testified that he was a member of the Grand Jary that indicted the defendants, and that before the jury met he had a conversation with John Montgomery in which the latter asked him for Miss Bond's statement in writing in consideration of a sum of money. On cross-examination the witness said he never received money from Montgomery, O. Harland testified that he heard Clements say during the preliminary examination that 'e-was not guilty, but knew who was. I shad by Mard testified that John Montgomery told him how he was at the school-house on the day of the assault. The prosecution then closed its case.

### MADE INSENSIBLE AND ROBBED.

Maple Rapids, Mich., Dec. 18.—Early yes-Creusinger, a wealthy resident, and, having put him under the influence of chloroform, ransacked the premises and secured about \$2,500 in cash and a quantity of val' uables. They then sought to conceal their crime by set ting fire to the house immediately below the room in which the proprietor lay. He, however, recovered from the influence of the drug in time to escape, though the house was wrapped in flames and was burned to the cround with the contents. The loss is \$23,000; insurance \$15,000. Mr. Creusinger recognized one of the robbers and a search for them is now in progress.

### KU-KLUX CONFICTED OF CRIME.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 18.—To-day Judge McCoy endered a decision in the motion for a new trial in the Banks County Ku-Klux cases. Five of the prisoners-Jusper Yarbrough, James Yarbrough, Hold Emory, Scats they were guilty, but that E. H. Green and Dilmus Yarbrough were innocent. The evidence as to the last two named will be heard Friday. The others were sentenced to two years' imprisonment each in the Albany, N. Y., Penitentiary, and a fine of \$500 each was imposed. Neal Yarbrough, who is sick in jail, has not been sentenced.

### ARIZONA RUFFIANS ARRESTED.

CLIFTON, Ariz., Dec. 18.-When Deputy Sheriff Hoovey, with his posse, returned here yesterday with "Red" and "Texas," the entire population turned out to meet them. The prisoners were strongly guarded and heavily froned. "Red" is wounded in the back. The capture of these two completes the number of those wh re engaged in the Gage Station train robbery, and the does, Arizona, raid and murders. "Yanken" Kelly and by Heath are under arrest at Tombatone, while the John Heath are under arrest at Tombstone, while the others of the gang, Delany and Dowd, have gone to So

## FATAL EXPLOSION OF BOILERS.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 18.-Two boilers in D. P. Richards's oil refinery, on Fifty-first-st., exploded to-day with terrific force, scattering the debris in all directions and injuring a number of workmen. Six men were injured, two of them seriously. The boller house was demolished and a portion of one boller was carried over 100 yards. Samuel Henderson and "West" Koup were very seriously injured and may probably die.

### A MINISTER VINDICATES HIMSELF.

New-Haven, Dec. 18 .- The Bethel Methodist Church of this city recently compelled the resignation there was a discrepancy in his accounts in connection with the new church ediffer recently dedicated. Mr Chambers publishes a card in which he caims that the church is indebted to him in the sum of \$1,193, which the trustees offer to settle upon condition that he will leave

### ECHOES OF THE DANVILLE RIOT.

DANVILLE, Va., Dec. 18.-It is said that Colonel Sims, who is now in Washington, will prepare a re-port on the late election riot here, based on the evidence taken in the contest against Colonel Hurt for a seat in the Virginia S-nate. At a convention held in Norfolk a few days ago steps were taken for the formation of an emigra-tion society, by which hones would be furnished for such colored persons as wished to leave Danville.

### WEDDING IN PORT JERVIS.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Dec. 18 .-- Benjamin Thomas, superintendent of transportation of the New York, Lake Eric and Western Railway, was married at 6 o'clock this evening to Miss Lillian 8. Gaylord, of this place. Their bridal tour includes visits to New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore.

### FOUR PERSONS ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Dec. 18,-A dispatch to The Express from Paris, Ill., says; "In an effort to frighten some boys by shooting a gun in the air, Sanford Norris, to-day, fatally shot his brother Tod and seriously injured his brother Orlando; Winston Griffin and Benjamin McLaughlin Griffin are not expected to live."

### TRIED FOR KILLING HIS WIFE.

WOODBURY, N. J., Dec. 18 .- In the Gloucester County Court to-day Rudolph Hein, convicted yester-day of manslaughter in killing his wife in a quarrel over a game of croquet, was sentenced by Judge Parker to a simple line of \$500 and to pay the costs of the court.

PLACE-HUNTERS DENIED AUDIENCE. IR. CARLISLE WORRIED AND PERPLEXED AT CON-

FLICTING CLAIMS OF AMBITIOUS CONGRESSMEN. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.-Speaker Carlisle has

been driven to decide that hereafter, until the committees are completed and arranged, he must deny pleasure of receiving Democratic statesmen who yearn for chairmanships and pine for desirable places on committees. This decision is a wise one. The Speaker has found that no sooner would be fix upon a few assignments to his own satisfaction than the men interested would discover it and begin to entreat him to put them in other places. Thus his work has been undone about as soon as he thought it completed, and to say that he is tired, disgusted and almost disheartened is to state the facts mildly. Moreover he finds that he cannot much longer endure the strain put upon him, without danger of breaking down completely.

The task of committee-making in Speaker Carlisle's case possesses an embarrassing feature with which none of his predecessors was troubled-his chief and almost only confidential adviser "His Warwick" as a Southern Representative put it today-is an avowed candidate for the Presidential nomination, and it seems, he believes in "making hay while the sun shines." A good many Demoeratic Congressmen, who have not been able to secure promises of the places they want, have be gun to realize this and to complain about it.

"BILL" MORRISON'S AMBITION. "No man need expect to get decent recognition unless he is willing to say that 'Bill' Morrison is his candidate for the Presidency," said a Southern Democrat to-day, who expected a place on a prominent committee which he finds he is not to receive. He continued: "You need not be surprised if little Perry Belmont secures the chairmanship of Foreign Affairs, after all, instead of Cox, who deserves it and is dying to have it. I think Carlisle wants to appoint Cox, but Belmont is for Morrison for President-at least Morrison thinks he is-and so, of course, Morrison is for Belmont. When the committees are announced, you will find that all the Morrison men are in good places." Other Democrats talk in a like strain. One of then said: "I am for the nomination of 'Joe' McDonald, and when dons; third, that eight hours shall constitute a day's I voted for Carlide I supposed he was; but it seems that he is willing to let Morrison help himself

all he can at the expense of the McDonald men." This remark seems unjust to the Speaker, who is regarded as a sincere man and, who is also looked upon as frieudiy to Mr. McDenald's aspirations. The belief is general, however, and to all appearances we'l founded, that Colonel Morrison is exerting a most powerful influence in the composition of the committees. So great, indeed, that every man who suffers disappointment will abuse him as the author of it, while every man who is satisfied will give Speaker Carlisle the credit.

HOSTILITY TO MR. HANDALL. But Colonel Morrison is not the only Democrat in the House, who aspires to the Presidency. A good many of the men who favor appointment of Mr. Blackburn as chairman of the Appropriation Committee chairman of the Appropriation Committee, declare that to give Mr. Randall the place is not only to offer him the opportunity he covets to prevent tariff legislation, but also greatly to promote his prospects as a Presidential candidate. Some of them say: "As chairman of Appropriations Randall will be able so to strengthen himself with the so-called business interests of the country, by obstructing tariff legislation, as to gain their solid support in the National Convention and by paring down the appropriation bills to proclaim himself as the apostic of 'coonomy' in the administration of the Government."

Others you further and declare that if the

others go further and declare that if the Speaker gives the chairmanship to Mr. Randall he will lay himself open to the suspicion that he is willing to see tariff reform indefinitely postponed. To one or two Congressmen, who suggested the latter view of the case to him, the Speaker is said to have replied, with great energy, that he proposes to appoint a Ways and Means Committee which will promptly report a revenue tariff bill, and if Mr. Randall, as chairman of the Appropriations Committee, seeks to thwart the will Appropriations Committee, seeks to thwart the will of the majority by the aid of Republican votes, he will be compelled to choose between two things—either to have the general appropriation bills fail in company with the tariff bill, or to allow both measures to pass.

WHAT TO DO WITH BLACKBURN. It seems settled that Mr. Randall is to be chairnan of Appropriations, and now one of the most trying and difficult things the Speaker has to do is to find a place that Mr. Blackburn will accept. It is understood he does not encourage the proposition to give him the chairmanship of the new Committee on Rivers and Harbors, and he feels indisposed to take a subordinate place on Ways and Means, which he might have, notwithstanding two other Kentucky statesmen are competitors for it. They are Messrs. Willis and Thompson. During the Speakership contest, Mr. Willis managed successfully a "Bureau of Mathematics," at Mr. Carlisle's headquarters, and the "estimates" issued by him several times a day were used with great effect upon newly arrived Congressmen, whose chief anxiety was to discover which candidate was ahead and likely to keep the lead. Mr. Thompson's friends say that he is one of the best informed men in the House on subjects relating to internal taxation, and that the Speaker will make a grave mistake if he does not assign him to the Ways and Means Committee.

KENTUCKY'S HOPERUNS HIGH. ing and difficult things the Speaker has to do is to

KENTUCKY'S HOPERUNS HIGH. Each of the other Democratic Representatives from Kentucky expects a good place, Mr. Robertson, Proctor Knott's successor, will be disappointed if he is not appointed to the Judiciary Committee, of which his predecessor was formerly chairman. Mr. Clay, another new member, expects a shairmanship and his friends think he will be placed at the head of Comage, Weights and Measures. Colonel Wolford, it is said, will be assigned to Military Affairs; Mr. Halsell to Invalid Pensions. It is not yet known where Oscar Turner will be placed, although he has for years been trying to abolish the duty on trace chains, and will doubtless feel hurt if he is not assigned to Ways and Means.

#### ROSECRANS AND BELMONT. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 18.—General Rosectans, chairman of the Democratic caucus, says it is all a mistake to think that Perry Belmont, as secretary, failed to carry out his wishes in regard to the calling of a caucus. In a note he writes: "Mr. Belmont did not thwart my wishes as to the calling of the cancus. I deferred the call until after the organization of the House committees, of my own motion and in deference to the desires of many members." General Rosecrans further writes that he desires this to be said to correct aninjustice to his young friend, Mr. Belmont, as well as to himself,

General Rosecrans does not say that he did not write the call for a caucus and give it to Mr. Belmont to be issued. The Democrats who asserted that such was the case, seemed to be convinced that what they said was true, and one person spoke of it who appeared to have his information from Mr. Belgery himself. of it who appeared to Mr. Belmont himself.

#### APPLYING FOR REINSTATEMEN & (BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNG.)

Washington, Dec. 18.-Messrs. Hayes and Devine, the official stenographers to House Commit-tees whom Speaker Keifer removed, have applied to be reinstated. One of the men who protested most carnestly against their removal and regarded it as an unauthorized act, is now Speaker of the House and it lies in his power to reinstate them. It is gen-erally expected that Messrs, Hayes and Devine will be reinstated.

#### THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 18.-Just why the House Committee on Rules should decide, as it did to-day, to raise a standing Committee on Labor it is rather difficult to explain, except on the theory that it is necessary to increase the number of chairmanships in order to provide sutiable places for the superabundance of first-class Democratic statesmen in the present House.

The recommendation of the Committee on Rules

to relieve the Commerce Committee of the burden of preparing the River and Harbor bills seems unobjectionable. There should be some amendment of the general laws relating to commerce and navigation but as long as the Commerce Committee has a River and Harbor bill on its hands it will pay no attention to anything else.

The committee also decided to submit to th House the proposition to give the Committee on Levees and Mississippi River Improvement jurisdiction of the subject of appropriations for those purposes. The committee decided to recommend the continuance of all the select committees of the last House except those on Census, Accommodations for the Library of Congress and three which related to individual matters. The committee agreed to report, without recommendation, a resolution providing for a Committee on Woman Suffrage.

#### A CHARGE OF INEFFICIENCY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Dec. 18 .- In July, John H. Livingston was appointed United States Marshal for South Carolina. Since then considerable opposition to his continuance in the office has been shown, and the subject is receiving the consideration of the President and Attorney-General. The chief ground of objection to Mr. Livingston seems to be his lack of energy and inat-Mr. Livingston seems to be his lack of energy and mat-tention to the duties of his office. It is urged that in South Carolina especially the United States Marshal should possess a great degree of energy and should pay strict attention to the doings of his deputies. A petition for the appointment of John Agnew, of Columbia, to the office has been received. It is signed by a large num-ber of influential Republicans, and it is said that there is some prospect of his appointment. Although sixty years of age, Mr. Agnew is described as a man of great energy, as well as of high character and ability.

#### NOISY STUDENTS AT A PLAY.

TRENTON, Dec. 18 .- One of the upper boxes at the Opera House last night, during the performance of "Pop" by Rice's Surprise Party, was occupied by half a dozen Princeton students. As soon as the play began, the students evinced a desire to take an unduly prominent part in the proceedings. They interrupted the performance several times during the first act by uncouth noises and gestures. Toward its close the audience began vigorously to demand the ejection of the disturbers. Twice John A. Mackay, while speaking his lines, stopped and looked up at the box until the sounds ceased, the audilooked up at the box until the sounds ceased, the audiance applauding him roundly. The students enjoyed the
situation until just before the curtain fell on the first act,
when a burly policeman entered the box and informed
them that they must leave the house. One who attempted
resistance was promptly arrested and taken to the staresistance was promptly arrested and taken to the stadeclaring that "they were only having a little fun," and
he was finally released. The box remained vacant for the
rest of the evening, greatly to the satisfaction of the
andlence. The managers of the Opera House state that
hereafter no boxes will be sold to Princeton students.

### THE FARMERS OF MAINE.

BANGOR, Me., Dec. 18 .- The Maine State Grange, of which Governor Robie is Master, began a four days' session here to-day. There are over 300 members present, and as these are the officers of subordinate granges they really represent one hundred and seventy-These have a membership of 12,500, consisting of est agricultural population of the State. Governor in his address congratulated Maine on its improve-in agriculture and imancial strength.

### POSSIBLY "SAM" PINE IN DISGUISE.

NEW-HAVEN, Dec. 18 .- Coroner Bellman was nformed recently of the mysterious movements of an Indian and a white female companion, who recently became squatters in a shanty in North Guilford. It is alleged that the Indian is Sam Pine, the Fairfield County des-perado, and that he may have been connected with the murder of Johnson, at Madison, as he appeared in Guil-ford the day after the murder with two axes in his outilt. The Coroner has begun an investigation.

### THE HIGHAM MURDER TRIAL.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., Dec. 18 .- In the Higham murder trial to-day, District-Attorney Emerson occupied an hour and a half stating the theory of the prosecution He explained how Higham and Eames became bitter ene. mice after being friends, and asserted that a motive ex-sted for the nurder, and reviewed circumstances point-ing to Hisham as the one who took Eames's life. Several witnesses testified to the circumstances of fluding Eames's

### ALLEGED FRAUD AND FLIGHT.

he bought a considerable quantity of goods from various drummers on credit, sold them below cost and pocketed the proceeds. Attachments have been laid on his remain-ing stock, but it is not expected to realize much.

### ACOUITTED OF ONE CHARGE.

Easton, Penn., Dec. 18.-Mrs, J. C. Goodwin, who is wanted in Massachusetts and West Virginia to answer charges of swindling, and who, on Friday, was convicted of defrauding a hotel preprietor here, was to-day acquitted of the charge of obtaining money from young ladies under the pretence of teaching them her art of dress making.

### A COLD BLOODED PLOT.

DENVER, Dec. 18 .- Mary Kofford called on Dr. Rose, a prominent dentist of Leadville last Saturday, and asked him to furnish her with a poison which could ot be detected. She offered \$300, admitting that she wished to get rid of her husband, Hans Kofford, so that her husband's brother, of whom she was enamored, and she might together enjoy an insurance of \$5,500 which her husband carried. The man and woman were arrested.

# SUICIDE OF AN EX-POSTMASTER.

St. Louis, Dec. 18 .- William J. Pierson, exaster at Batesville, Ark., committed suicide last posimister at Bareaum's Hotel. He had recently resigned his office on account of some dissatisfaction expressed by the Department at his management, but his successor had not been appointed.

### A PLEA OF GUILTY ENTERED.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18 .- Julius Brantigan. who shot and killed John Cummiskey on the morning of October 14, while the latter was attempting to force an entrance into Brantigan's unoccupied house, entered a plea of gully of murder in the second degree. Sentence was deterred.

### THE CASE OF FRANK JAMES.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 18 .- The Criminal Court at Gallatin yesterday fixed the ball at \$5,000 in the case of Frank James, accused of the murder of Cashier Sheets in 1869. The defence asked that the prisoner be remanded to the custody of his sureties. This the Court took under advisement. The prisoner was returned to jail. SWINDLED OUT OF PENSION MONEY.

# BALTIMORE, Dec. 18 .- William Mason, a mer-

chant of Snow Hill, Worcester County, this State, and John Collins, colored, were sent to jail to-day for trial by United States Commissioner Rogers on the charge of hav-ing swindled Benjamin Purnell, colored, out of upwards of \$600 pension money awarded to him on the death of

### THE ALLEGED WALPOLE BURGLAR.

NEW-HAVEN, Dec. 18 .- Gevernor Walle said this afternoon that he had decided to allow counse for Crandall, the alleged Walpole burgiar, the privilege of examining the papers upon which the extradition warrant was based. Judge Studiey continued the case.

#### A BOSTON BROKER SUSPENDS. BOSTON, Dec. 18 .- The suspension of a mem ber of the Brokers' Board, W. P. Metcalf, of State-st,

is announced. He is reported to be "long" on New-Yor and New-England stock. Mr. Metcalf says his embar

is temporary. A BOY MURDERS HIS BROTHER. Mr. STERLING, Ky., Dec. 18 .- In Morgan County on Thursday, two brothers named De Rusk, while working in a field, became involved in a dispute, and the

# elder, age 14, shot his brother through the heart.

A COAL MINE CAVES IN. WILKESBARRE, Dec. 18 .- A cave-in at the Pine Ridge Colliery, of the Delaware and Hudson Cana. Company, caused a stoppage of the air course. Mining cannot be resumed for many days.

### AN IRON MILL IDLE.

READING, Penn., Dec. 18 .- The Maiden Creek Iron Company's rolling mill at Blandon, this county, to-day shut down for an indefinite period, in consequed of the dull trade.

### PRICE THREE CENTS.

HOW CITY FUNDS ARE WASTED. MORE LIGHT ON AN EVIL SYSTEM.

EXTRAVAGANCE AND CORRUPTION IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

FIGURES FROM A LARGE NUMBER OF CONTRACTS LET BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON - HIS DE-MANDS FOR NEXT YEAR.

In answer to Mr. Thompson's assertion that the number of contracts let on unbalanced bids during his administration is extremely small, THE TRIBUNE to-day gives figures from no less than 83 contracts of that sort which have been awarded by Mr. Thompson as Commissioner of Public Works. And this by no means exhausts the list of these, 37 are for repairing and regrading streets; 46 are for sewers. These show all the familiar variations in price for exactly similar work, the bids for rock excavation, ranging from \$30 to one quarter of cent per cubic yard; and those for earth excavation, from \$8 to one cent. For receiving basis for sewers, the bids range from \$515 down to one cent. For sewer per linea foot the range is from \$19.89 to \$2.95. For lumber per thousand feet, the variations are from one cent to \$80.00. The total amount of the losses to the city resulting from such concontracts as these may not be known for several years, but they have already been extremly heavy. Tax payers will read with interest the information given herewith concerning Mr. Thompson's favorite contractors and associates.

In spite of the disclosures of the of public funds in his demisuse partment. Mr. Thompson went before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment yesterday and insisted that all the erroncously excessive estimates which he had submitted for 1884 were necessary. The Board appropriated \$20,000 to enable the special Grand Jury to employ accountants in investigating the municipal de partments.

### PRICES IN EIGHTY-THREE CONTRACTS.

UNBALANCED BIDS RUNNING THROUGH THEM ALL-INFORMATION ABOUT MR. THOMPSON'S FAVOR-

ITE CONTRACTORS AND ASSOCIATES. It will probably take years to determine the full extent of the losses suffered by the city because of the unbalanced bid frauds in the Public Works Department. The losses on some contracts, of the same kind made when Tweed was Commissioner of Public Works, are now in legal process of determination. Property-owners refuse to pay their assessments, and the matter drags along until the city attempts to sell the property, when the owners make legal resistance because of excessive cost-Then in the courts, or before the Assessment Commission, the amount of loss to the city may be determined. But in many cases reductions because of excessive cost, principally growing out of unbalanced bids, are made by the Board of Assessors or the Board for the Revision and Correction of Assessments, before the assessment is confirmed. Then there is a large share of the cost of these improvements assessed against the city in the first place and not against the property. In these and various other ways the the city is made to suffer. But the losses are divided up in such a manner that it is difficult to determine the exact amount. There can be no doubt, however, that these are exceedingly large.

One account on the books of the Finance Department called "Deficiencies in Assessments," represents a loss of \$4,484,356. In addition to that assessments have been vacated since 1876 to the amount of \$3,263,431; and in two years \$365,. St. Louis, Dec. 18.—It is said that Ernest H. owners because of reductions through L. Piper, of Piper & Co., dealers in notions, has fled, leaving debts to an unknown amount. It is alleged that And the city has lost in interest, on assessments which they had paid. duced and vacated since January 1, 1881, over \$500,000. These losses amount to over \$9,000,-000, and they will be augmented by an addition of other millions from losses that will surely follow cases now before the Courts and the Assessment Commission and the Board of Assessors and the Board for the Revision and Correction of Assessments, all of which bodies deal with this subject. This enormous loss to the city is made up by general taxation. The property-owners who have paid their assessments for street improvements are thus compelled to help pay for the improvements on the property of other citizens, and that at rates so excessive as to be deemed by the courts fraudu-

> FOLLOWING TWEED'S METHODS EXACTLY. The effect of the unbalanced bid system is exactly the same to-day as it was under Tweed, and it has been carried on just as unblushingly and audaciously by Commissioner Thompson as by Tweed. Mr. Thompson has done this notwithstanding the complete exposure made only a few years ago of the outrageous character of this swindling system as shown on the canals. The same contractors and the same men, in many cases, who did work under Tweed are also employed by Thompson, In one case before the Assessment Commission recently a reduction of \$106,484 was made; the principal part of this was for rock excavation paid for by the city, but as the commission decided never made by the contractor. James Slattery was the contractor. His name is familiar to readers of THE TRIBUNE as prominent among Mr. Thompson's unbalanced bid contractors,

PROOF OF MR. THOMPSON'S UNTRUTH, Mr. Thompson recently made a public assertion that he had let only five contracts for regulating and grading, on unbalanced bids, during his term and grading, on unbalanced bids, during his term of office. An examination of the records in the Finance Department shows that at least fifty such contracts have been let for regulating and grading; and as many more for work on sewers; while a number of contracts of the same character have been let on work paid for out of the Croton Water Fund and from other sources. Here is a list of thirty-seven contracts for regulating and grading let by Mr. Thompson to the following contractors and on the unbalanced bids set opposite to their names, and these do not exhaust the number:

Contractors.	Excavation per cubic yard.	Excavation per cubic yard.	Filling per cubic foot.	New Curb- stone per linear foot.	New flagging per square
James Slattery	\$ 60	\$ 95	\$	\$ 34	\$ 18
Butler & Reilly	60	70		1 50	38
Michael Finn	7 90	35	7000	30	05
A. Dowdney			05	75	20
John Brady	45	5 00	25	05	05
T. E. Cummins	0.00	0.5	43	10	03
Hugh Duffy	2 05	1 40	0.1	01	01
John Brady	1 10	1 40	01	0310	01
Michael Finn	01		51 49	01	01
Michael Finn	01		08	75	25
D. K. Gallagher		0.00	20	68	27
J. Baird	25	3 00	01	75	80
Hugh Duffy	00	***	U.	57	97
James Reilly	83	1 93	11	11	27
J. W. O'Grady	1 15	01	**	68	97
J. Baird James Reilly	01	2 194		01	01
Vincent Clark	91	01		56	24
John Brady	ei	5 00	30		
Patrick Reilly	25	2 60		62	27
Michael Finn	01		47	24	1 19
Michael Finn	78			55	24
D. K. Gallagher		01		01	01
Michael Finn	01	-	53	20	O.
John Kinsley	1 00	80	00	40	15
James H. Perkins			22	58	26
John Brady	2 20	01	22	01	01
Michael Finn	01	1 61	-	01	01
Thos. H. Casey	01	1 50	25	60	3(
J. D. Moore		10 00	-	11000	2:
John Slattery		01	35	60	26
H. Tone		2 00	-	50	24
John Brady		0034	0014	004	27 12 24 01 08 12 26 01 30 22 24 24 24
John Phelan		01	1000	60	21
Thomas Murray		01	40	64	1
J. D. Miner		1 63	1	05	0
W. J. Reilly		01		01	0

THE AMAZING RANGE OF FRICES. These contracts are given in the order in which